

Selected Definitions

Colossians 2:1-15

Bauer, Danker, Arndt and Gingrich. *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and other Early Christian Literature*, Third Edition. Chicago and London: The University of Chicago Press (2001). ISBN 0226039331

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order. τάξις, *taksis*: “**1** an arrangement of things in sequence, fixed succession/order... **2** a state of good order, order, proper procedure ... 1 Cor 14:40 ... Col 2:5.”

stability. στερέωμα, *stereōma*: “**1** the sky as a supporting structure, the firmament... **2** state or condition of firm commitment, firmness, steadfastness...”

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elementary principles. στοιχεῖον, *stoicheion*: “[**1**] The elementary forms of religion, Jewish and polytheistic, which have been superseded by the new revelation in Christ... [**2**] The elemental spirits which the syncretistic religious tendencies of later antiquity associated w. the physical elements... [**3**] Heavenly bodies were also regarded as personal beings and given divine honors.” [Stoicheion must mean something that Colossian Jews taught, and that Paul recognized as a real danger. GJC]

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fullness. πλήρωμα, *plērōma*: “**1** that which fills... makes someth. full/complete... **2** that which is full of someth... **3** that which is brought to fullness or completion... a full number... b sum total, fullness, even (super)abundance... The full measure of deity... **4** act of fulfilling specifications, fulfilling, fulfillment... **5** the state of being full, fullness of time...”

deity. θεότης, *theotés*: “The state of being god, divine character/nature, deity, divinity, used as abstract noun for θεός [*theos*].”

bodily. σωματικῶς, *sōmatikōs*: “Bodily, corporeally.” (σωματικός, *sōmatikos*. “**1** pert. to being corporeal as opposed to noncorporeal, bodily, corporeal... **2** pert. to the physical body, body-related, bodily.”)

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certificate of debt. χειρόγραφον, *cheirographon*: “A hand-written document, specifically a certificate of indebtedness, account, record of debts... the account that stood against us Col 2:14.”

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forgive. χαρίζομαι, *charizomai*: “**1** to give freely as a favor, give graciously (a common term in honorific documents lauding officials and civic-minded pers. for their beneficence...)... **2** to cancel a sum of money that is owed, cancel... **3** to show oneself gracious by forgiving wrongdoing, forgive, pardon.”

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decrees. δόγμα, *dogma*: “**1** a formal statement concerning rules or regulations that are to be observed... a of formalized sets of rules ordinance, decision, command... b of an imperial declaration ... decree... **2** something that is taught as an established tenet or statement of belief, doctrine, dogma.”